MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 MAY 1982

Israel

Security Situation -- Bombs exploded near a military camp in Jericho and at a bus stop in Jerusalem, according to Jerusalem radio reports on the incidents, which also said there were no casualties.

Knesset Affairs -- Two MK's are resigning from the Likud, Jerusalem radio reported. One will join the Alignment and the other will cooperate with it. Earlier, Jerusalem television reported that the Knesset will discuss an Alignment no-confidence motion on 19 May.

New Airbases -- Speaking at the ceremony in which the Ramon and 'Uvda airbases in the Negev were declared operational, Air Force Commander Maj Gen David 'Ivri said the new bases "are perhaps the best in the world," Jerusalem radio reported.

Possible Tunisian Recognition -- According to Jerusalem radio, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali has said Tunisia will recognize Israel's existence and negotiate with it if this is approved by the Arab summit conference.

Tabah Dispute -- Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has written to his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Hasan 'Ali calling for a compromise to solve the Tabah border dispute, 'AL HAMISHMAR reported. Shamir indicated that Israel will not accept binding arbitration.

Relations With Africa -- Kenya and Zambia will not resume diplomatic relations with Israel, according to Jerusalem radio reports. Meanwhile, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said Zaire's resumption of relations with Israel is a "stab in the back" for liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa and for the Palestinian revolution. The Arab League likewise denounced Zaire's decision, AFP reported.

Begin U.S. Visit -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin will meet President Ronald Reagan in Washington on 21 June, Jerusalem television noted.

Lebanon

A Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) Command statement broadcast by Beirut radio said that after gunmen fired at ADF trucks passing through Al-Kahhalah township, an ADF patrol returned the fire, hitting three persons. However, Voice of Lebanon radio said the Syrian patrol launched an unprovoked attack in Al-Kahhalah, killing two young men.

PLO

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf has revealed that a high-level PLO delegation will visit Damascus shortly to complete discussions on a strategic agreement with Syria, the Voice of Palestine reported. Khalaf also stressed that the PLO rejects the Israeli interpretation of the cease-fire agreement. A radio commentary opined that the Israeli leaders are voicing their interpretation of the agreement in an attempt to convince international public opinion beforehand that an aggressive war against Lebanon, the Palestinian revolution and Syria is justified.

Egypt

Thirty Soviet experts will arrive in early July to participate in the installation and operation of new equipment at the iron and steel plants in Hulwan, MENA reported citing AL-JUMHURIYAH. According to the paper, the experts, whose number is expected to increase to 50, will be used for limited periods ranging from 5 to 8 months.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iranian forces succeeded in liberating the Kushk region, killing a large number of Iraqis and destroying 10 tanks, according to an armed forces and Guards Corps communique carried by Tehran radio. A large number of Iraqi forces was captured during this operation, the communique said. Iranian troops also destroyed the Iraqi forces in the area northwest of Khuzestan and began fortifying positions in this sector, the communique claimed.

According to a later military communique carried by the radio, two Iraqi aircraft were shot down in the Abadan area. In other action on the Abadan front Iranian naval forces killed or wounded 30 Iraqis, the communique reported. It noted that fighting was continuing on most of the western fronts.

According to an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio, 172 Iranians were killed when Iraqi troops attacked Iranian positions in the area north of Khorramshahr. Another 10 Iranians were killed in action on the Sumar and Gilan-e Gharb fronts, the communique added.

Arab Support for Iraq -- The Arab states will invoke the joint Arab defense pact in the event of any Iranian aggression on Iraqi territory, an official Saudi Foreign Ministry source stated in an interview with 'UKAZ, MENA reported. An Arab state will advise Iran of this position and will emphasize the necessity of Iran's responding to peaceful efforts to end the war, the source added.

Meanwhile, in statements to the Cairo press, reported by MENA, Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah called on the Arab states which do not support Iraq to halt their aid to Iran so that Iraq's security will not be endangered. While denying the presence of Egyptian soldiers in Iraq, Abu Ghazalah emphasized that Egypt is supplying Iraq with all the military requirements which it cannot obtain elsewhere.

Kuwait

The Kuwaiti Armed Forces are ready to confront any threat against Kuwait "irrespective of its source," Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah declared in a statement to Kuwaiti journalists, KUNA reported. Asked about recent Iranian threats against Kuwait, the defense minister said the army is studying the threats carefully but is not concerned. He said the army is ready to defend Kuwait and all members of the GCC.

Iran

Ten 'hypocrites' were arrested in Babol when their hideout was discovered by guards of the Babol Islamic Revolution Committee, Tehran radio reported.

Afghanistan

India and Afghanistan have signed a protocol providing for an increase in the number of Indian experts helping Afghanistan in technical and economic matters, Delhi radio noted.

DAILY REPORT

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COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH INDIA

LD171730 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] The sixth session of the joint Afghan-Indian commission for economic, commercial and technical cooperation ended this morning after which a protocol was signed by Sakhi Daneshjo, the DRA deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Natwar Singh, the Indian deputy external affairs minister.

After the protocol signing, Sakhi Daneshjo and Natwar Singh spoke about the friendly relations between Afghanistan and India and expressed their satisfaction and belief that the conclusion of the protocol will help toward further strengthening relations between Afghanistan and India.

According to another report, the Indian deputy external affairs minister, who headed the delegation to the cooperation commission talks, left for New Delhi today.

The delegation was seen off at Kabul International Airport by the DRA deputy minister of foreign affairs and head of the Afghan delegation; members of the Afghan delegation; and the ambassador and some members of the Indian Embassy in Kabul.

Delhi Report

BK171611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] India is to step up its assistance to Afghanistan in some technical and economic fields under a protocol signed between the two countries in Kabul today. The protocol provides for an increase in the number of Indian experts in health and some other fields. Afghanistan has also sought India's assistance in setting up small-scale industries and in sectors like power, water and trade.

The protocol was signed by Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs Natwar Singh and Afghanistan's deputy foreign minister. Natwar Singh, who called on President Babrak Karmal yesterday, delivered a letter from Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi. He also met the Afghan prime minister and the foreign minister.

NEW POWER, IRRIGATION MINISTRIES FORMED

LD161616 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 May 82

[Decree issued by the Revolutionary Council Presidium on 15 May]

[Text] In accordance with the provisions of Article 44 of the Basic Principles of the DRA, the Revolutionary Council Presidium has approved the following:

The Ministry of Water and Power is to be divided into two ministries -- the Ministry of Irrigation and the Ministry of Electric Energy [wazir-e energy berq].

Relating to the formation of the new ministries:

First: Pohandoy Dr Mohammad Paktin is to be minister of power energy;

Second: Engineer Mohammad Shah Sorkhabi is to be minister of irrigation.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium

FURTHER DETAILS ON TALKS WITH PRC REPORTED

BK171356 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] India and China began official-level talks in New Delhi today on the boundary and other bilateral issues with a positive approach to make progress.

Delegations of senior officials met for 1 hour in plenary before breaking up into four groups dealing with the border, culture, science and technology, and trade and economic affairs. They will continue their discussions over the next 4 days.

The Indian side is led by Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs Eric Gonsalves and the 11-member Chinese side is led by special envoy Fu Hao.

An official spokesman said that no fixed procedure is being followed about the meeting of the groups. As and when the groups make progress the plenary may be convened. But, the spokesman said, as of now, the plenary is scheduled to meet on Friday [21 May] when the groups finalize their deliberations.

STATESMAN VIEWS ON BORDER TALKS WITH PRC CITED

BK141636 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1609 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] The STATESMAN on 14 May in its editorial entitled "Another Probing Round" writes that an Indian spokesman said that "a frank and friendly exchange of views on the boundary question" had revealed both the extent of differences that remained and the two sides' resolve to solve them. Shorn of diplomatic verbiage this meant that no common ground had been found at all.

Narasimha Rao almost confirmed this when he told a parliamentary consultative committee that no "substantial" progress had been made. Although Deng Xiaoping later described the talks as "extremely favourable" this was in the course of an attempt to impress upon the Third World how keen the Chinese were on friendly relations with neighbouring countries.

That the New Delhi talks will be held at a time of major domestic preoccupations for both Beijing and New Delhi — a massive political and administrative reorganization in China and a "mini general election" in India -- might be interpreted by some as an indication of the importance that both sides attach to the negotiations. But surely a more plausible explanation is that neither side expects the New Delhi round to yield or be even confronted with anything that might demand the immediate and undivided attention of the highest political leadership. The main objective will perhaps be to sustain the impression that the process of negotiation is continuing.

There is no point in continuing the talks if it insists that there can be no settlement without a Chinese withdrawal from all the territory it regards as India's; nor can Beijing help matters by insisting that there is nothing to discuss about the western sector because the territory it has occupied there is indisputably Chinese.

Unless India can produce a practicable alternative formula, the idea of what the Chinese call a "comprehensive settlement" on the basis of a "package deal" can hardly be rejected without further consideration. If the principle is accepted, India of course will have to insist on more than the mere recognition of the McMahon line in the eastern sector. Chumbi Valley would be a reasonable "concession" if the Chinese do not want to be told about "compensation" for Aksai Chin. None of this can be settled or even formally considered at the New Delhi talks but ideas can at least be further explored.

COMMENTATOR REVIEWS RECENT SINO-INDIAN CONTACTS

BK161437 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 16 May 82

[Commentary by C.S. Pandit, AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA bureau chief, on Sino-Indian talks]

[Text] The second round of official-level Sino-Indian talks for normalization of bilateral relations, including the boundary issue, begins here tomorrow. The first round held in Beijing in December last year brought the sharp differences that persist in the position of the two countries on the border. Apparently, both sides reiterated their position on the border, which is well-known. After the talks then it was decided to have the second round in New Delhi after the delegations of the two countries had studied their respective positions in detail in consultations with their governments.

About a month ago the Chinese indicated that they were now ready for the second round and India promptly suggested 17 May as the date for the second round in New Delhi.

It is obvious from the statements of the leaders of the two delegations that the talks are entering a crucial phase when substantive issues are likely to be discussed.

Leader of the Chinese delegation Fu Hao, without detracting one bit from the well-known Chinese position on the McMahon line and Aksai Chin area, struck a note of optimism in an interview with an Indian agency correspondent at the time of his departure from Beijing when he expressed the hope that the second round of talks on the border and other bilateral issues will proceed in a constructive atmosphere.

Leader of the Indian delegation Eric Gonsalves, too, considered it as a hopeful sign that the two sides were continuing their dialogue in a friendly manner across the negotiating table. But he was cautious enough to point out that the question of the boundary was not very simple and no one should expect a breakthrough during the second round. But he hastened to add that both sides were committed to finding a solution and were confident that a solution could be found through friendly and continued dialogue.

India had all along, particularly since 1976 when it sent a full-fledged ambassador to Beijing, maintained that to this country normalization of relations, indeed enhancement of these relations with a great neighbor like China, had a high priority. That required an honorable and mutually acceptable solution of the boundary problem particularly.

The talks, of course, are expected to cover the whole range of bilateral relations, including economic and cultural cooperation and trade relations. At one time China had proposed that if a solution to the complex boundary issue could not be found immediately, it could be kept aside and progress achieved in other spheres so that a friendly atmosphere could be created for tackling this basic issue.

But India was able to persuade Foreign Minister of China Huang Hua, when he visited this country in June last year, to agree that the boundary question, though not directly linked to improving bilateral relations in other spheres, was central to the normalization and deepening of bilateral relations between the two countries. So it was decided that all bilateral issues, including the boundary issue, should be taken up simultaneously.

In his press conference in New Delhi at the conclusion of his visit, Huang Hua himself outlined a mandate to the official delegations of the two sides when he said that the boundary question was central to the relationship between the two countries and should be settled early. It will be realized that the officials have no authority to go beyond this mandate or take decisions on alternative proposals. Every time new proposals are made from either side, the political leaderships in the two countries have to be consulted before any further progress can be made.

Viewed against this background it is understandable that there is cautious optimism on the Indian side and an optimistic hopefulness on the Chinese side. No doubt the two sides can meanwhile keep building relations in other spheres, such as trade, cultural exchanges and economic cooperation. A beginning has already been made with encouraging results.

There have been a number of trade teams visiting the two countries and recently there was an official press delegation from China which toured India. There have also been a number of visitors, scholars and journalists from India to China. After a lapse of nearly 2 decades the two countries have also posted representatives of their respective national news agencies in the capitals of each other. These are all encouraging signs. But it is often pointed out these relations, though not directly linked to the boundary issue, are bound to be affected by the progress in the border negotiation.

From that sense an early solution of the border problem, which is honorable to both sides and mutually acceptable not only to the governments but people of the two countries, is most essential in order to start on the road of building bridges.

HERALD ON REAGAN'S DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL

BK171418 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 13 May 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Reagan's Two Proposals"]

[Text] Within a matter of two days President Reagan's administration has made public two foreign policy initiatives which, taken together, cannot but disturb people keen on disarmament.

Vice-President George Bush, at the end of his four-day visit to Beijing, released three letters Mr Reagan had written to Chinese leaders in which he had proposed Sino-U.S. "strategic cooperation" directed against the Soviet Union.

Within 24 hours Mr Reagan let the world know he had written to President Brezhnev proposing a flat one-third cut in both super powers' missile warheads. The Soviet Union has predictably reacted negatively to this proposal, contending that it sought to give "unilateral military advantages" to the U.S.A.

But for the world in general, the more disturbing thing is the way the proposal was made. The U.S.A. has long been flaunting the "China card" in its relations with the Soviet Union, but it is breaking new ground in diplomacy to propose anti-Soviet cooperation with China and then to ask the Soviet Union to cut its missile strength. Indeed, the timing of the release of the letters to China by Mr Bush indicates that the idea was to make doubly sure of a Soviet rejection.

This is a dangerous development. So far, all disarmament talks have been marked by sincerity and earnestness on both sides, and if they have not made more progress than they have it is partly because of the anxiety of each side that the other should not steal a march over it and partly because each side has, understandably, wanted secretly to gain minor military advantages. In such a situation it is possible to negotiate. But to make proposals meant to be rejected is a new development which shows a dangerous wish to earn popular acclaim without moving the disarmament dialogue forward.

It is known that the Reagan administration was badly shaken by the massive anti-missile marches all over Europe last November. Later the infection crossed the Atlantic and a movement for a nuclear freeze started snowballing.

It has been public knowledge for some months that U.S. officials have been working feverishly on plans to wrest the propaganda initiative. The first move was to coin the new phrase START (Strategic Arms Reduction Talks) to replace SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks), since Mr Reagan had rejected SALT-II negotiated by President Carter. Now comes the missile cut proposal heralded by inspired leaks on the one hand and, on the other, Mr Bush's startling release of Mr Reagan's damaging letters to the Chinese leaders.

It is known that both super powers, and indeed all rivals in any kind of negotiations, seek to get the maximum propaganda advantage out of any proposals that they make. But, whatever the propaganda value, the proposals themselves always get prime importance. To make proposals merely to snuff out the mounting clamour for nuclear disarmament, merely to opiate the people into believing that something is being done while nothing is intended, is an alarm signal for the world.

Endangered humanity would very much want to be convinced that its yearning for survival still gets precedence over the ephemeral advantages of a propaganda victory.

RAO COMMENTS ON TIES WITH PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH

BK161301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 May 82

[Excerpt] External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao has said the proposed no-war pact between India and Pakistan will have no meaning without mutual faith between the two countries.

Addressing a public meeting in Udaypur, the minister reiterated India's desire to establish close relations with Pakistan.

Referring to Bangladesh, Rao said we want to solve our problems with that country although some difficulties have cropped up earlier.

SATHE: CHANGE OF HEART IN PAKISTAN NECESSARY

BK160715 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Former Foreign Secretary R.D. Sathe has said a real change of heart is necessary on the part of Pakistan if Indo-Pakistan relations are to overcome the burdens of the past. He was speaking at a function on India and her neighbors in New Delhi.

Sathe said the acquisition of sophisticated arms by Pakistan and its reported nuclear weapons program are not conducive for peace talks.

JASARAT VIEWS INDIAN TACTICS ON NO-WAR PACT

GF171255 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 14 May 82 p 3

[Editorial: "New Name for Old Net"]

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi is planning to send a letter to the Pakistani president, Gen Ziaul Haq, in which she will suggest that both countries appoint a joint commission which would resume efforts for normalization of relations between India and Pakistan. With this, the talks on a no-war pact should also move further. This news has been reported by a prominent Indian newspaper, HINDU, quoting its Delhi-based correspondent.

Similar news has also been received from other sources. We consider this new proposal by Indira Gandhi an excuse to put off the no-war pact and to entangle Pakistan in India's latest net. The same tactic has been used in the past by India in the Kashmir dispute.

According to Pakistani views, Kashmir has been the underlying cause of the strained relations between India and Pakistan. Pakistan, in this regard, has always maintained that if the Kashmir dispute is resolved all other differences with India would automatically disappear. India, on the other hand, has always maintained the strange logic that first small matters should be solved so that the way may be paved for solving bigger issues. This cunning approach also provides that small disputes should be endlessly generated to keep both countries engaged in the preliminaries for years to come. The approach is calculated to delay resolving the basic dispute. It also aims at rendering stale the Kashmir dispute so that it may lose its importance with the passage of time.

It has been Pakistan's experience in talks with India that whenever a resolution of some dispute seemed nearer, the talks were broken off when India began to insist that Pakistan should solve its disputes through bilateral talks and that it should take no dispute to any international forum. India has been using the Tashkent and Simla accords with the very same advantage with regard to the Kashmir dispute. On both these occasions India tried to fence in Pakistan so that the dispute over Kashmir was withdrawn from the international forum.

Similarly, the Indian proposal to form a joint commission while talks over the no-war pact continue is again the same old net given a new name. This old net with a new brand name is now being spread to delay talks over the proposed no-war pact as the Soviet Union would like them to be. The second aim of forming such a joint commission is to found a bilateral forum which would require Pakistan to stay within this bilateral forum and prevent it from taking any dispute to the international arena.

This kind of commission can only be effective where sincerity and good will exist between the disputing parties. But, where such sentiments are lacking, as has been proved time and time again, such a forum would prove to be an ineffective and futile exercise. However, after a no-war pact comes into existence and both sides become convinced that conditions exist which could make a joint commission useful and effective, the matter would certain merit consideration.

From this point of view, we are of the opinion that the Government of Pakistan should not take up talks over forming the said joint commission before a no-war pact comes into existence.

IQBAL KHAN LEAVES ON VISIT TO TURKEY 16 MAY

BK161626 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Chairman Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan left Karachi today for a week-long visit to Turkey.

GROUP DEMANDS RELEASE OF GROUP POLITICAL PRISONERS

OW160106 Hong Kong AFP in English 0020 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Karachi, 15 May (AFP) -- The eight-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) today demanded the release of political prisoners in Pakistan including retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan and Benazir Bhutto, eldest daughter of executed former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

A meeting of the central action committee of the outlawed MRD chaired by Mr Bhutto's widow, Begum Nusrat Bhutto, declared that hundreds of political prisoners were being held without trial.

The committee criticised what it described as irresponsible and contradictory utterances by the president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, about democracy, democratic institutions and the country's political system.

Gen Zia's demand for a political role for the army was a clear deviation from Islamic principles and the unanimously-adopted 1973 constitution, it added.

BRIEFS

OIL COOPERATION AGREEMENT -- Pakistan and Kuwait signed an agreement in Islamabad on 6 May which envisages the setting up of joint ventures between the Oil and Gas Development Corporation of Pakistan and the Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Company to develop oil potentials in Pakistan. The details of the joint ventures will be settled through mutual consultations. The agreement has been concluded in accordance with a protocol signed in Islamabad on 6 May between the visiting Kuwaiti oil minister and the federal minister for petroleum and natural resources. Under this, the two countries will cooperate in setting up joint ventures in the field of oil and gas. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 May 82 BK]

CULTURAL ACCORD WITH JORDAN -- Pakistan and Jordan have signed an agreement on cultural exchanges for 1982 and 1983. Under the agreement, the two news agencies of both the countries will exchange news and articles on both the countries. Under the agreement, Pakistan will reserve 31 seats for Jordanian students in medical, pharmaceutical and engineering colleges and will exchange experts in the fields of educational planning and administration, agriculture, primary adult and handicapped education. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 May 82 BK]

FRG OFFICIAL'S VISIT -- The state secretary, Ministry of Economic Cooperation of the Federal Republic of Germany, (Conrad Fostner), currently on a visit to Pakistan, called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening and discussed matters concerning the economic cooperation and political relations between Pakistan and Federal Germany. Also present among others on the occasion was Federal Minister for Finance Ghulam Ishaq Khan. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 May 82 BK]

COOPERATION ACCORD WITH FRG -- Pakistan and the Federal Republic of Germany signed a financial cooperation agreement for 1982-83 in Islamabad on 9 May providing for an FRG assistance of about 562 million rupees. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 May 82 BK]

MONTAZERI WARNS EGYPTIAN NATION, GULF LEADERS

LD141140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, a large number of brothers and sisters, teachers and students and education authorities from Esfahan, Damajhan, Sari, Qa'emshahr, Varamin, Savejbolagh, Falavarjan, Tehran, Garmsar, Khomeynishahr, Kashan, students from the school at Melli Base in Hamadan, a number of brothers and sisters from the war zone, physical education teachers from the 16th District in Tehran, members of the literacy campaign in Aligudarz, the educational committee of the reconstruction crusade of Bakhtaran, members of the Islamic society of teachers of Some'eh-Sara, employees of the Ministry of Energy from Tehran, members of the Mobilization of the Oppressed and the Revolution Guards Corps of Tonekabon and Toviserkan, and the members of the Islamic society and the Islamic Republican Party and Islamic revolution organizations of Imamshahr today met with Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom.

In this meeting, referring to the fact that the most important issue of the day is the war and the victory of the fighters, Ayatollah Montazeri, while glorifying the great martyrs of Islam and expressing his congratulations and condolences to the imam and the nation, especially the esteemed families of the martyrs, explained the self-sacrifice of the Muslims in war in the early days of Islam, including the battle at Tabuk.

He said: Today, the same glorious history is being relived and repeated and our beloved youth with their pure blood are safeguarding this divine trust so that, God willing, they may submit it to the lord of the command.

In connection with America's recent plot to formalize the Camp David treason and to involve Egypt in the imposed war, Ayatollah Montazeri said: So far, most of the compromising and mercenary regimes, including that of Egypt, have been unofficially assisting the declining regime of Saddam. Recently, with America's pressure, this assistance is being implemented.

Addressing the Muslim Egyptian nation, Ayatollah Montazeri said: We are not surprised at the actions of your dependent and mercenary government. Our surprise is at your silence. At a time when Israel has deprived you of your government [as heard] and, while occupying Jerusalem and Islamic lands, each day continues to kill the Palestinian brothers and bomb south Lebanon, why do you allow your dishonorable government to plan to send the soldiers of your country to the Persian Gulf instead of struggling and fighting against the usurping Zionism? And, finally, he wishes to use the military power of the Egyptian Armed Forces in the war against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the interest of America and Israel, thus weakening and destroying the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Addressing the leaders of the Persian Gulf countries, Ayatollah Montazeri warned them not to put themselves at the service of imperialism and Zionism. He said: Before it is too late join Islam and the ranks of the Muslims and, at the side of your Muslim Iranian brothers and sisters in Iran, form a powerful political and military front against the enemies of Islam and against Zionism. You should know that Saddam is on the way out. You should no longer waste your honor and resources for his sake.

Addressing the students, Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized: Try to safeguard the future of the Islamic revolution of Iran by studying and by paying attention to religious issues so that, God willing, we may achieve complete self-sufficiency and independence and so that we may not be in need of other countries. Ayatollah Montazeri also asked the alert and Muslim Iranian people to try, in addition to chanting the slogan of "Death to America," to put an end to our dependence and try to achieve self-sufficiency by not indulging in wastage.

MONTAZERI MEETS GUARDS DAY ORGANIZERS, TAHERI

LD171245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 May 82

[Excerpts] Members of the headquarters organizing celebrations for 27 May -- the birthday of the master of martyrs, Imam Hoseyn, named as Guards Day -- accompanied by Taheri, Imam Khomeyni's representative in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, were received last night in Qom by Ayatollah Montazeri.

Praising the significance of this great day and the efforts made by the members of the headquarters in promoting the role of the guards and in safeguarding the Islamic revolution against domestic and foreign pressures and also their efforts to export the revolution abroad, Ayatollah Montazeri issued some guidelines. He also stressed: Considering that the oppressed world and the world of the deprived, particularly the Palestinian nation, have joined the Islamic revolution of Iran, we are thus all dutybound to help them comprehensively, especially ideologically and mentally.

Referring to the support given by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps to liberation movements throughout the world, Ayatollah Montazeri said: Liberation of beloved Jerusalem is an important issue for us. Consequently, in order to realize the slogan "Today Iran; tomorrow Palestine" and to strengthen the profound bond between the Islamic revolution of Iran and the Palestinian revolution, it would be appropriate for the corps to implement certain programs both inside and outside the country in order to strengthen the ideological foundations and to promote and expand the religious knowledge of Palestinian Muslims.

In conclusion Ayatollah Montazeri praised the role played by Muslim youths outside the country in combating counterrevolutionary elements and (?refusing) to cooperate with them, and he reiterated Imam Khomeyni's assertion to the effect that our dear young men should take steps to marry the widows of the eminent martyrs.

MONTAZERI RECEIVES ERITREAN REPRESENTATIVE

GF171932 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 May 82

[Excerpt] In the city of Qom today, Ayatollah Montazeri received the representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF].

During this meeting, his eminence said: If the Eritrean revolutionaries break off their [word indistinct] to East and West and adhere to Islam as our Muslim people do, they will certainly be victorious.

Ayatollah Montazeri added: If Muslim revolutionaries in the Third World rely on their faith and on Almighty God as [words indistinct], they will be victorious.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE 22 REPORTS MILITARY SUCCESSES

LD171134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 May 82

[Joint communique No 22 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressors.

Greetings to you, combatants of the army of God and defenders of the Islamic revolution. May your ceaseless battle and your powerful arms be blessed. Relying on the limitless force of God and the prayers of the imam and the honorable nation, you will clean all the corners of our land from the filthy presence of mercenary invaders.

Oh champion and martyr-nurturing nation: Continuing the third phase of the victorious Jerusalem Operation (bayt al-moqaddas], our powerful combatants succeeded in cleaning up and liberating another part of our Islamic homeland, in the Kushk region, from the filthy presence of the Saddamists. In these courageous operations a large number of the aggressive Iraqi Army were killed or wounded. The brave and antiblasphemy combatants of the army of Islam succeeded in inflicting considerable damages and casualties on enemy forces, destroying at least 10 enemy tanks and taking another 5 undamaged tanks as booty. A large number of enemy forces were also captured in these operations.

Also, another group of Iraqi military personnel, who realized the aggressive nature of the Iraqi regime and could not tolerate Saddam's disgraceful crimes, surrendered to the forces of Islam and asked for asylum. They were welcomed with open arms by the soldiers of Islam.

The fast flyers of the Airborne Division of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the selfless combatants of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Mobilization forces succeeded in destroying more than 20 heavy vehicles, 106-mm rifles, mortars, anti-aircraft weapons and loaders belonging to Saddamists by setting them alight. The defenders of the Islamic revolution, while cleaning up another part of the Islamic homeland northwest of Khuzestan and destroying enemy forces in the region, began fortifying their own positions and are now crushing any futile act by the Ba'thist aggressors.

With hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and liberation of Jerusalem from occupying Zionism. Seek assistance from God, victory is near.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 910

LD171800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 May 82

[Communque No 910 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] According to a report issued by the air corps of the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, two intruding aircraft belonging to the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces were hit and downed at 1530 and 1538 today by our air defense forces in the Abadan area.

Fighting and exchange of fire continued yesterday on most of the western fronts. The fire of the strong combatants of Islam destroyed one tank, three trucks and several supply points belonging to the Saddamist forces, set five enemy vehicles on fire and stopped enemy artillery activity on the Salehabad, Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts.

As a result of the ground forces' heavy-artillery fire on the Marivan front, three ammunition dumps, two trucks and several positions and fortifications belonging to the Saddamists were set on fire and destroyed in (Walyawah) and Panjwin in Iraq.

In the past 24 hours the heroes and brave men of the irregular tribal warfare units based in the western areas returned the enemy's fire and dealt effective blows to them. Our warriors continue to defend the areas and positions concerned.

The heroes of the gendarmerie opened fire on the Saddamists' positions on the Abadan front and destroyed one mortar launcher, six trenches and some light and heavy weapons. More than 10 Iraqi troops were killed. Our naval heroes on this front killed or wounded about 30 Iraqi troops and destroyed 14 trenches and observation posts belonging to the Saddamists.

SAFE HOUSE DISCOVERED, 10 ARRESTED IN BABOL

LD171748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] The Central News Unit, citing the Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of Islamic Revolution Committees, reports that a hideout of the American hypocrites organization has been discovered by guards of the Babol Islamic Revolution Committee, with the unreserved cooperation of the Hezbollahi nation. The guards captured the hideout and arrested 10 active members of the minigroup. In the course of inspecting this den of corruption, approximately 2,500 saving deposit account books, more than 5,000 bank drafts prepared for forgery, and various kinds of banned pamphlets, such as ARMAN-E MOSTAZ'AFIN, MOJAHED, KAR, a quantity of organizational documents and papers, and also indecent articles and magazines were seized.

Those arrested, along with the confiscated goods, were delivered to the Islamic Revolution Court in Babol.

9 'MINIGROUP' SUPPORTERS SENTENCED IN RASHT

GF171132 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 4 May 82 p 5

[Text] Rasht -- Nine members and supporters of counterrevolutionary minigroups in Bandar-e Anzali were sentenced to 1-20 years' imprisonment by the local Islmic Revolution Court. They were accused of involvement in activities against the Islamic Republic regime and of participation in illegal marches.

According to IRNA, the names and terms of imprisonment are as follows:

Sohail Jannati, son of 'Ali Akbar: 10 years.
Fa'ez, Hamid and Farahnak, sons of 'Aziz: 10 years.
Nader Heydarieh Kohan, son of Mohammad Qoli: 15 years.
Yusof 'Ali Razavi, son of Ramzan 'Ali: 5 years.
Yaqub Asadnia, son of 'Abdollah: 10 years.
Seyyed Ebrahim Nurnia, son of Seyyed 'Abdollah: 1 year.
Babollah Shafi'i, son of Bakhshandeh: 1 year.
'Ali Baqeri, son of Mohammad: 20 years.

VOICE OF IRAN: QOTBZADEH ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

NC180933 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 17 May 82

[Summary] Our correspondent reports that former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who is in prison on charges of plotting to overthrow the regime, "attempted suicide on Saturday, 48 hours ago, in his cell in Evin Prison" but was saved by several revolution guards.

NVOI: PRO-U.S. GROUPS HIDING BEHIND ISLAMIC MASK

TA142059 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 14 May carried a commentary entitled: "The Mask of U.S.-Made Associations Must Be Ripped Off." It stated that in its plots against the revolution U.S. imperialism exploits every method and ploy and every tool and means, including associations that are outwardly religious and which were forged by U.S. imperialism itself prior to the revolution. One of these organizations and associations, seemingly formed to struggle against Baha'ism, under the Islamic guise, is the self-same Hojjatiyeh Association. It might be amazing to some, yet it is a fact that all the activities of the Hojjatiyeh Association are in line with the aims of world-devouring America and its multifarious elements.

This fact has been demonstrated through an interview that one of the leaders of this association, Mr Tayyeb, had with the SOBH-E AZADEGAN newspaper. His confessions during the interview reveal many untold secrets. He says that the Hojjatiyeh Association was formed for the purpose of showing so-called sensitivity toward leftist groups. For this reason this association allegedly chose to be neutral toward all the treacheries and ploys of the liberals and Westernized individuals during the post-revolution period.

The only thing that differentiates the Hojjatiyeh Association from other counterrevolutionary groups that are opposed to the imam's line is the very religious and Islamic mask which the leaders of this association have put on their faces.

The elements of this association have managed to penetrate into the mass media, government organizations and revolutionary institutions through this mask. They are distorting the face of the Islamic Republic of Iran behind this mask in defense of the very positions which their American masters have assigned them. They create a climate of discontent and act in the most brutal manner against individuals associated with the true revolutionary forces and the sincere followers of the imam's line.

In our homeland the Hojjatiyeh Association is not the only association operating under the guise of Islam but actually carrying out the directives of its American masters. The identification of these outwardly religious and U.S.-made associations and organizations is not difficult. The true faces of these associations and their leaders should be exposed to the people before it is too late. The counterrevolution and world-devouring America must not be allowed to implement their counterrevolutionary plans and plots behind these associations.

NVOI ASSAILS RELATIONS WITH TURKEY, PAKISTAN

TA171242 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 15 May 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Subservient Friends of the Great Satan Cannot Be the Friends and Supporters of Our Islamic Republic"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Today no one can any longer be in doubt of the fact that in general U.S. imperialism implements the major part of its plots against revolutionary and emancipated Iran through Turkey and Pakistan. The regimes of Pakistan and Turkey are puppets and subservient regimes of U.S. imperialism in the true sense of the word. They are directly involved in every anti-Iranian plot from abroad. It is in view of this fact, recognized by everyone, that the claim by some of the officials, particularly in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to the effect that Turkey and Pakistan are the sincere friends of revolutionary Iran and support Iran on the international diplomatic scene, cannot but cause the concern of Iran's aware and ever-on-the-scene people.

Consequently, our people cannot accept that the Turkish regime, which is America's unconditional ally in the aggressive NATO pact and which is actually the implementator of America's policy and directives, can be the friend of revolutionary and anti-imperialist Iran. The officers ruling over Turkey are pawns in the hands of the United States. They were brought to power by staging a pro-U.S. coup so that by suppressing any liberation and anti-imperialist movement in Turkey they would continue to keep that country as a U.S. base.

Currently 28 U.S. military bases exist in Turkey. All of these bases, simultaneously to being aimed at the Soviet Union are also aimed at the Islamic Republic of Iran.

There was a time when following the revolution, the step-by-step government and later elements such as Qotbzadeh, Yazdi, Bani-Sadr and other imperialist elements were striving by every means to construe Iran's friends as foes and the foes as friends.

These followers of the U.S. line were attempting with all their might to lead revolutionary Iran's foreign policy away from real friends and toward the establishment of close ties with Pakistan, Turkey, China and the allies of world-devouring America in the aggressive NATO pact. This approach and attempt by the U.S. agents and the enemies of the Iranian nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution is comprehensible. However, this policy's disgraceful defeat was evident from the outset.

Following the dismissal of the traitor Bani-Sadr from the presidency, and the disclosure of the true nature of agents and spies such as Qotbzadeh and others, the necessary condition and potential were brought about for the implementation of a correct foreign policy worthy of the Iranian nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution. Fortunately, certain steps have also been taken toward this end by the Islamic government.

However, regrettably, we are observing that some of the officials, particularly in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, are still the captive of mental prejudice and superficiality. Without paying heed to the depth of the issue, and for the sole reason that the leaders of this or that country, for example Turkey, call themselves Islamic, these officials lay the foundation of friendship with these countries and declare them to be the friends and supporters of the Iranian revolution.

Contrary to false claims by the leaders of the Turkish regime to the effect that there are no Iranian counterrevolutionaries in Turkey, this U.S. puppet regime is the foe of emancipated Iran and has transformed its country into a base against Iran. According to numerous documents and evidence, Turkey's military rulers have placed every potential at the disposal of the fugitive Iranian counterrevolutionaries. They have been quartered in special camps on Turkish territory, and are receiving the necessary training under the supervision of U.S. experts so that at the suitable opportunity they would infiltrate into our country to create disturbances in our emancipated homeland, particularly in Azarbayjan, and to implement world-devouring America's evil plans. Therefore, our emancipated country's borders with Turkey must be kept under careful and constant control and surveillance because the revolution's foes are lying in wait on the other side of the border in order to strike at revolutionary Iran at the suitable opportunity.

The information pertaining to the danger posed by Turkey to our country has been disseminated throughout the entire world. Now, if Turkey's American officials have denied this fact it is because they have no other alternative. Turkey owes Iran several hundred million dollars, and currently because of its great economic problems it is unable to pay off this debt. Therefore, it has resorted to tricks and ruses in its ties with revolutionary Iran and professes to be the supporter and backer of Iran.

The Americans themselves call Turkey the frontline of NATO. Naturally this frontline is among other things aimed at emancipated Iran. It is in view of the black report card of Turkey's military and American rulers that we say that Turkey's coup and subservient regime -- which is American to the marrow -- cannot be the friend of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Turkish regime is the active and real foe of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the gains of the Iranian revolution.

One should be vigilant in relations with a country like Turkey, and must try not to fall into a trap that has been laid by such elements as Qotzbadeh and Yazdi.